



SWISS CLUB OF VICTORIA presents...

LIMITED SEATS BOOK EARLY!

Swiss Alps to Antarctic Glaciers – a Swiss-Australian Story

**The Journals of Dr Xavier Mertz.
Mawson's Australasian Antarctic
Expedition 1911-1914**



Mertz, Ninnis and Murphy, September 1912, State Library of NSW

➔ **Thursday,
11 September
2014**

6pm for 6:30pm start

The Swiss Club
of Victoria

The Second Floor
89 Flinders Lane
Melbourne

On 10 November 1912, three men set off on an ill-fated sledging expedition; only the leader Sir Douglas Mawson survived. Lieutenant Belgrave Ninnis died when he fell into a crevasse. Dr Xavier Mertz and Mawson turned back towards the Australian base at Commonwealth Bay but Mertz fell ill and died. Mawson then walked alone back to the base, it was a 160 kilometre trek that took him a month.

Anna Lucas set herself the challenge of producing a revised German transcript and an English translation of Mertz' expedition journals. Through this work, we are able to gain an insight into pioneering exploration and of the man, Dr Xavier Mertz, the 29-year-old mountaineer and ski champion from Basel and the first Swiss to set foot on this fascinating continent.

Speaker: **Dr Anna Lucas**



As a researcher with an interest in the history of Antarctic science, Swiss Club member **Anna Lucas** developed a greater interest in the personalities who contributed so much to the history of that continent. She worked with researchers monitoring the Little Blue Penguin, in postgraduate research administration, and as co-editor of marine publications. Inspired by a trip to Antarctica, her writing has more recently focused on its exploration and what inspired and motivated explorers. Her publications include magazine and journal articles, book reviews, essays and eBooks. She continues to be immersed in Antarctic subjects.

➔ **Program**

- 6pm to 6:30pm Welcome & refreshments
- 6:30pm to 7:15pm Film: A visual introduction to Antarctica
- 7:15pm to 8pm Presentation by Anna Lucas

Autographed copies of Anna Lucas' new books 'Mertz & Me by Basilisk' and 'The Journals of Dr Xavier Mertz' will be available for purchase.

Enjoy dinner at the Swiss Club before or after the event.
Please book with the restaurant on T: 9650 1196.

Cost

Complimentary for Swiss Club members.
\$10 for non-members. Includes refreshments.

Bookings are essential!

Swiss Club members booking and information:
T: 1300 893 968 or E: info@swissclub.com.au

Non-members, please book/purchase tickets online:
www.trybooking.com/93994

RSVP: by 4 September